

## Evergreen Communities Act Technical Advisory Group Roles and Responsibilities

### Purpose

The Evergreen Communities Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will aid and advise Department of Natural Resource (DNR) staff in developing the criteria and implementation for a state-wide community and urban forest inventory and assessment as defined by Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2844 (E2HB 2844) - (The Evergreen Communities Act)

In developing the vision and policy recommendations, the TAC must consider the following:

- Environmental responsibility
- Sustainable funding
- Compatibility with trust land and state land management obligations
- Rights of nearby and adjacent land owners

### Membership

The TAC will be comprised of representatives from the following groups. The Commissioner of Public Lands will appoint individuals to represent most or all of the following interests:

- Arborists
- Municipal Foresters
- Educators
- Consultants
- Researchers
- Public Works and Utilities Professionals
- Information technology specialists
- Other affiliated professionals

Members are expected to place a high priority on preparing for, attending and actively participating in approximately three to four Advisory Committee meetings. Although members may represent a particular interest, they are expected to focus on the overall good of the state, not just the perspectives of a single interest area.

Members should consider the following guidelines when communicating with other TAC members, DNR, and external parties.

- Be mutually respectful
- Be honest about one's own or group's core values, interests, and goals
- Avoid attributing positions or motives to other parties in communicating externally
- Communicate externally as a group as much as possible, for example through periodic agreed-on statements of progress

Members also are asked to inform others about the TAC and get input from a variety of perspectives on issues discussed by the TAC. Members will be expected to respect and adhere to the ground rules agreed upon by the TAC at its first meeting.

#### DNR Commitments

DNR will support the TAC, which includes preparation of schedules, reference materials, agendas, meeting summaries, and an initial list of issues for the TAC's consideration.

With advice of the TAC, DNR also will:

- Provide technical information and issue papers
- Respond to TAC requests for information

#### Organization – Meetings

With the assistance of a neutral facilitator, members will provide input to DNR and the legislature.

The length and frequency of TAC meetings will be determined with input from the members. Additional input from members may be requested via phone conversations or email, but total time commitment is not expected to exceed a total of 24 hours.

Meetings will be open to the public. Throughout the term of the TAC, public comments received by DNR on this topic will be shared with members during meetings. At the discretion and approval of the members, opportunities for formal public comment at TAC meetings may be provided.

The TAC will be disbanded by the Commissioner of Public Lands upon the completion of the criteria and implementation plan for the statewide community and urban forest inventory and assessment.